

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-6 (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A method of preventing damage to a machine having at least one drive motor, an electrical power supply system for said motor and a motor drive controller for said motor comprising the steps of

monitoring the electrical power supply system for the presence and maintenance of a required quality of power,

detecting the presence of an unwanted state of the power from said power supply system,

transmitting an indication of said unwanted state in real time to said drive controller;

said drive controller initiating a drive braking function for said motor in response to the unwanted state,

whereby said machine is slowed or brought to a standstill.

8. (Previously Amended) The method according to claim 7, wherein said machine has at least two drive motors and a motor drive controller for each motor, one of said drive controllers having master functionality, the indication of unwanted state having been transmitted to said drive controller having master functionality, further comprising the steps of synchronizing the operation of said at least two drive motors

with each other, and synchronizing the drive braking function of said motors in response to an unwanted power supply system state.

9. (Previously Amended) The method according to claim 7, further comprising using a real-time Ethernet for the transmission of an unwanted system state to said drive controller.

10. (Previously Amended) The method according to claim 8, further comprising transmitting an unwanted system state in real time to the drive controller having master functionality and providing this information to other drive controllers via a real-time cross communication.

11. (Currently Amended) A machine comprising at least two rotating machine elements,

synchronizable individual drive controllers for one of said drive controllers having master functionality, each of said rotating machine elements,

an electrical power supply system for said machine elements,

a monitor for detecting an unwanted state of said power supply system,

a data communication system for transmitting an indication of an unwanted power supply system state to said drive controller having master functionality, said drive controller having master functionality communicating said indication to all other drive controllers, and

braking means for each of said rotating machine elements responsive to their respective drive controllers for synchronously slowing rotation of said machine elements and bringing them to a standstill. in response to the unwanted power supply state

12. (Previously Amended) A machine according to claim 11, wherein the machine is a printing machine and wherein the data communication system comprises a real-time Ethernet, and a real-time cross communication system for communicating an unwanted system state from said drive controller having master functionality to other drive controllers.